



Attorney's Docket Number: S5118

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Applicants

Theriault, et al

Serial No: 09/698,817

Filed: October 26, 2000

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD  
FOR MAINTAINING A DRY  
ATMOSPHERE IN A SURFACE  
MOUNT DEVICE PLACEMENT  
MACHINE

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Examiner: Phan, Tiem D.

Group Art Unit: 3729

**REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

SEP 22 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

Thank you for the Office Action dated July 11, 2003, in which the Examiner indicated a requirement for restriction. Please enter the following reply and reconsider the Examiner's restriction requirement.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.